

What is claimed is:

1. A double-jointed horse bit comprising:
  - two outer side parts that are preferably configured to be rings and with a bit part interposed between and connected to the side parts, the bit part having two side portions; a central portion, the central portion being connected to each of the two side portions through a joint, the joints being formed from two joint holes formed in the central portion and from one eye each which is provided in every side portion, and the central portion has a base part in which the two joint holes are formed;
  - a ring, wherein the ring is substantially located between the two joint holes and is bounded by radial surfaces, the ring has an outer diameter A, an axial width B, and an axial hole having an inner diameter L;
  - a peripheral groove for movably receiving the ring and for securing the ring from being lost is formed in the base part, the groove having an axial width W that is slightly greater than the axial width B, the base portion has, in the region of the groove, a core diameter D that is smaller than the inner diameter L of the hole; and
  - the groove is bounded by a rim having a rim diameter R that is not greater than the outer diameter A, wherein the core diameter D is at least one millimeter smaller than the inner diameter L of the hole and the ring is allowed to radially move back and forth, and that twice the hole diameter L is smaller than the sum of the rim diameter R plus core diameter K and the hole is always hidden.
2. The bit as set forth in claim 1, wherein the base part is made from the same metal as the two side portions.
3. The bit as set forth in claim 1, wherein the width B ranges from about 1 mm to about 10 mm.
4. The bit as set forth in claim 3, wherein the width B ranges from about 5 mm to about 8 mm.
5. The bit as set forth in claim 1, wherein the outer diameter A is at least 2 mm greater than the rim diameter R.

6. The bit as set forth in claim 1, wherein the outer diameter A is at least 3 mm greater than the rim diameter R.
7. The bit as set forth in claim 1, wherein the sum of the core diameter D and the outer diameter A is not smaller than the sum of the rim diameter R and the hole diameter L.
8. The bit as set forth in claim 1, wherein twice the hole diameter L is smaller than the sum of the rim diameter R plus the core diameter K.
9. The bit as set forth in claim 8, wherein twice the hole diameter L is about 1 mm smaller than the sum of the rim diameter R plus the core diameter K.
10. The bit as set forth in claim 1, wherein the ring has a peripheral surface that is bounded by a curved line in an axial sectional view.
11. The bit as set forth in claim 2, wherein the ring has an irregular peripheral outer surface that is for example fluted, riffled or roughened.
12. The bit as set forth in claim 1, wherein in each side portion there is provided an outer hole defined by outer axes, the outer axes spanning a first plane, that the two joint holes of the central portion having parallel hole axes defining a second plane and that the first plane extends at an angle of about 45° plus/minus about 20° with respect to the second plane.
13. The bit as set forth claim 1, wherein in each side portion there is provided an outer hole defined by outer axes, the outer axes spanning a first plane, that the two eyes are defined by eye axes spanning a third plane and that the first plane extends at an angle of about 45° plus/minus about 20° with respect to the third plane.
14. The bit as set forth in claim 1, wherein the central portion has a maximum length of about 4 cm.
15. The bit as set forth in claim 1, wherein the central portion has a maximum length of about 3 cm.
16. The bit as set forth in claim 1, wherein the hole axes of the two joint holes of the central portion are spaced less than about 2.5 cm apart.

17. The bit as set forth in claim 16, wherein the hole axes of the two joint holes of the central portion are spaced less than about 2 cm apart.
18. The bit as set forth in claim 1, wherein in each side portion there is provided an outer hole defined by outer axes, the outer axes spanning a first plane, that, when the bit is stretched, each outer axis forms an angle of less than about 90° with a longitudinal axis of the bit part in the first plane, and that the two outer axes of the outer holes form the same angle with the longitudinal axis.
19. The bit as set forth in claim 18, wherein each outer axis forms an angle between about 60° and 85° with the longitudinal axis of the bit part in the first plane, and that the two outer axes of the outer holes form the same angle with the longitudinal axis.
20. The bit as set forth in claim 1, wherein in each side portion there is provided an outer hole defined by outer axes, the outer axes of the outer holes intersecting beneath a horse's tongue when the bit is placed in the horse's mouth.
21. The bit as set forth in claim 1, wherein the central portion has an increased cross sectional surface area in comparison to adjacent regions of the side portions.